



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Inventor: Estes et al.

Serial No.: 10/027,160

Title: Non Aqueous Washing Apparatus and ...

Atty. Docket No. 9793070-0439

Examiner: G. Webb

Group Unit: 1751

TC 1700

SEP 6 2002

RECEIVED

Response A to First Non-Final Office Action

In response to the Non-Final Office Action dated 25 April 2002, the applicants respond as follows.

A. In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIGS. 4-12 and 15 illustrate various methods of washing fabrics in accordance with the present invention. For definitional purposes, a fluid that possesses no deterative properties similar to those properties found in conventional detergents, dry cleaning agents and liquefied carbon dioxide will hereinafter be referred to as an ideal working fluid (IWF). Examples of IWFs that can be utilized with the methods and apparatuses of the present invention include fluoroinerts, hydrofluoroethers, perfluorocarbons and similarly fluorinated hydrocarbons.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, spanning lines 19 to 25, with the following paragraph:

-- As noted above, one family of chemicals particularly suited for use as IWFs in the methods and apparatuses of the present invention are "fluoroinert" liquids. Fluoroinert liquids have unusual properties [which] that make them particularly useful as IWFs. Specifically, the liquids are clear, colorless, odorless and non-flammable. Fluoroinerts differ from one another primarily in boiling points and pour points. Boiling

09/05/2002 MAHED1 00000067 193140 10027160

01 FC:102 84.00 CH
02 FC:103 684.00 CH

09/05/2002 MAHED1 00000067 193140 10027160

03 FC:115 110.00 CH